



Lunenburg Public Schools

Loxi Jo Calmes
Superintendent of Schools

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING Wednesday, May 25, 2011 Brooks House – 7:00 p.m.

Minutes

School Committee

David Reif
Donna White
Colleen Shapiro
Gregory Berthiaume
Michael Mackin – absent

Superintendent

Loxi Jo Calmes

Recording Secretary

Mary Landi

Student Representative

Jen Markham

Guests

Christine Bonci, Sara Lane

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- * Call to Order – Superintendent Calmes called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. This is the annual reorganization meeting. The superintendent welcomed Mr. Mackin to the School Committee and thanked Mr. Poitras for his three years of service.
 - * Committee Reorganization – Dr. Berthiaume moved and Ms. Shapiro seconded a motion to nominate Dr. Reif as Chair. Vote: unanimous.
 - * Chairman's Report
 - * Review and Approve Minutes
 - April 27, 2011 Regular Session Minutes – Approved by Dr. Reif.
 - * Review and Approve Warrants – There were two line item transfers. One was from Mr. Londa and one from Special Services.
 - * Superintendent's Report – Superintendent Calmes encouraged everyone to attend the many end-of-year events and celebrations.
 - * Student Report – Ms. Markham reported the following:
 - The boys and girls track teams won league championships.
 - Coach K (Steve Kyajohnian) won the Massachusetts State Track Coach of the Year Award for the second time!
 - A new homeroom system for the high school will be in place for next year. The advisory group model places students with the same homeroom teacher for four years. Specialized homerooms will be eliminated.
 - Next year, finals will be changed to a month-long schedule.
 - Relay for Life will be held on June 9 at Mount Wachusett Community College.
 - * Public Comment – Ms. Shapiro attended the Empty Bowls dinner at TCP; it was a wonderful event and well attended.
 - * New Business
 - a. MOA Lunenburg Tutors and Aides – Superintendent Calmes reviewed the Memorandum of Agreement and hit upon the highlights. The MOA is for a new three-year contract. The superintendent

recommended ratification by the school committee. Ms. Shapiro moved and Dr. Berthiaume seconded a motion to accept the superintendent's recommendation. Concessions made by the tutors and aides association represent a savings to the district of about \$30,000. Vote: unanimous.

- b. School Improvement Plan – Primary School – Ms. Christine Bonci thanked her committee for their work on the Primary School SIP. This SIP raises the bar for the students and supports teachers in the classroom. Ms. Bonci touched on the highlights and the new initiatives, including Handwriting Without Tears. There was a discussion around handwriting. Ms. Bonci also talked about the Recycling Program at the Primary School, which teaches students about waste and recycling. Superintendent Calmes recommended approval of the Primary School SIP. Dr. Berthiaume moved and Ms. Shapiro seconded a motion to accept the superintendent's recommendation. Vote: unanimous.
- c. School Improvement Plan – T.C. Passios Elementary School – Dr. Lane thanked her committee for their work on this SIP. Next year 20 minutes will be added to each day; class time will be in 45-minute blocks; there will be common planning time for teachers; and there will be five specials. Dr. Lane reviewed each of the three goals in the Plan. There was discussion around the SGP numbers in the 4th grade, which were low, and what is going to be done to address this issue. Dr. Berthiaume would like Dr. Lane to take another look at the SGP data 3% increase with her school council, as it seems that the expectation is very low. Superintendent Calmes recommended approval with the notation that we will take another look at the growth model and come back to the committee on that issue. Dr. Berthiaume moved and Ms. Shapiro seconded a motion to approve the T.C. Passios SIP. Vote: unanimous.
- d. FY12 Nature's Classroom – Initial Trip Approval – Dr. Lane requested initial approval for the FY12 Nature's Classroom trip, which will be during the first week of October 2011. The cost will remain approximately the same as this year; scholarships will be available. Superintendent Calmes recommended initial approval of the Nature's Classroom Trip. Ms. Shapiro moved and Dr. Berthiaume seconded a motion to approve the superintendent's recommendation. Vote: unanimous.
- e. Donation – Funds for Special Olympics Transportation – Superintendent Calmes recommended acceptance of a donation of \$285 to fund transportation of some of our student athletes to the Special Olympics at Fitchburg State University. Dr. Berthiaume moved and Ms. Shapiro seconded a motion to approve the superintendent's recommendation. Vote: unanimous. Superintendent Calmes also expressed appreciation and recommended acceptance of a donation of lighting equipment at LHS from the Memorial Fund and the Gendron Family.
- f. Superintendent's Evaluation – Dr. Reif gave a brief summary of the superintendent's evaluation and expressed appreciation to the superintendent for another stellar year.
- g. Committee Appointments – The school committee members voted on and approved Dr. Berthiaume as Vice-Chair and Mr. Mackin as Secretary for this term. They also discussed and decided on which of them would represent the SC on various school councils and town committees.

* Old Business – None.

* Public Comment – None.

* Reports

- a. Advisory Committee
- b. Finance Committee
- c. School Councils
- d. PTO
- e. Policy Sub-Committee
- f. Capital Planning Committee
- g. Health Advisory Committee
- h. PAC/SAL
- i. Regional Planning Committee – Dr. Berthiaume reported that the RPC met twice recently.
- j. Rep. Benson's Advisory
- l. Other

* Continuing Projects/Estimated Date of Completion

* Items for Future Discussion

- Workshop Sessions
- Facilities Use Procedure

- Civic Engagement

* Executive Session – At 8:40 p.m. Dr. Berthiaume moved and Ms. White seconded a motion to enter into executive session, not to return to public session, for the purpose of discussing strategies related to contract negotiations. Vote: unanimous.

Roll Call

Dr. Reif – yes

Dr. Berthiaume – yes

Ms. White – yes

Ms. Shapiro – yes

* Adjournment – At 9:10 Dr. Berthiaume moved and Ms. Shapiro seconded a motion to adjourn regular session. Vote: unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Landi
Recording Secretary

c/5/24/20/mel

